

CHIEF LEFT HAND PRAISES JESS FOR GOING TO SCHOOL

(Jess is talking about a time he visited the Arapaho camp at Christmas during vacation from school.)

--he said, "There were camps down there in the woods--Left Hand."

I said, "Is my folks coming?" "Yeah. Your dad and them's camping there." My father always had a shed for his horses.

He was a horse lover. He never would leave his horses to be exposed to the cold. He said, "You father's got a shed out there and a little hay stack there." I said, "All right. I'll

be out there." So I saw two or three other friends or relations of mine. So I hired a buggy, a hack, from Geary. I bought some groceries and things like that. I bought some socks for my

father and some stockings for my mother, and sweater. And I came out the way we came. No--we used to cut across further

west there, the river. We drove through the woods and when we saw the camp we went down there. I asked one man, "Where's my

folks?" He said, "Right west of here where that shed is." So we drove up. It was late in the evening. Well, nobody knew I

had got home. So I unload myself and went in there and kissed my father and mother. My brothers were there. So I laid down.

And we had supper about dark. So my father said, "You ought to go see your "father"--(referring to Left Hand)--you know,

I think he and my father were cousins but we have no word for "cousin", but they used to call each other "brother." He said,

"You ought to go see your 'father.' That's his tent right there."

So I got ready. And two or three boys came in and saw me. And soon after I heard the old man start singing. Ordinarily the old chiefs used to sing their favorite journey songs, and